

Boating Infrastructure Grant Program -

B. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Boating infrastructure refers to features that provide stopover places for transient nontrailerable recreational vessels to tie up. These features include, but are not limited to:

- Mooring buoys
- Day-docks
- Navigational aids (channel markers, buoys, directional information)
- Transient slips (slips that boaters with nontrailerable recreational vessels occupy for no more than 10 consecutive days)
- Safe harbors for transients
- Floating docks and fixed piers
- Floating and fixed breakwaters
- Dinghy docks
- Restrooms
- Retaining walls

- Bulkheads
- Dockside utilities
- Pumpout stations
- Recycling and trash receptacles
- Dockside electric service
- Dockside water supplies
- Dockside pay telephones
- Debris deflection booms
- Marine fueling stations
- Initial, one-time-only dredging, only to provide transient vessels with safe channel depths to the transient facility.
- Install navigational aids between tie-up facilities and channels

All facilities constructed under this program must be:

- Secure and safe with service available
- Designed and constructed so as to last at least 20 yrs
- Used by transient boaters (boaters not at their home port and staying not more than 10 consecutive days)
- Designed to accommodate boats 26' in length or greater
- In boating access waters at least 6 feet deep (at low water)
- On navigable waters
- Within two miles of a public pumpout
- Open to the public
- Used for the original stated grant purpose throughout the useful life of the project
- Maintained throughout their useful life

Conditions

Facilities that participate in the program must allow the feature(s) constructed under the BIG Program to be open to the general public and provide access to shore along with other existing basic features of the facility such as fuel, pumpouts, and restrooms. Some type of reservation system must also be available to ensure boaters space when they arrive. Access to other nonessential features of the facility is not required. Reasonable rates (prevailing rates in the area) may be charged to boaters for transient mooring facilities constructed under the BIG Program.

Projects are ineligible for funding if the activities include:

- Activities or construction that does not provide public benefit.
- Law enforcement actions
- Degradation of valuable natural resources or cultural or historic nature of the area
- Maintenance dredging
- Routine, custodial and/or janitorial maintenance activities (those that occur regularly on an annual or more frequent basis)
- Construction or maintenance of facilities designed for trailerable boats
- Construction of slips for long term rental (more than 10 days)
- Dry land storage or haul out facilities

Design & Construction (THIS IS AN IMPORTANT SECTION)

The applicant must not award any construction contracts until after plans and specifications are approved by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The applicant is obliged to cooperate with the Connecticut DEP in order to ensure that the contractors comply with Equal Employment Opportunity requirements. This includes all bid advertisements. Funded projects must also meet federal ADA requirements for barrier-free access (See Federal Register 09/03/02). This Federal Register contains information about barrier-free access at boating facilities as well as other types of outdoor recreation facilities.

Design consultants and engineers need to plan accordingly. To obtain a copy of minimum design specifications and ADA requirements for boating facilities funded through the DEP Boating Division, contact: Mike Payton at 860-434-8638.

Compliance

Features proposed under the BIG Program cannot cause damage to the environment nor to historic features. If the scope and nature of your project requires an Environmental Assessment (EA) to be completed, it will be the grantee's responsibility to have the EA prepared and approved. All facilities must comply with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.